

INFORMATION REPORT

DATE DISTR. 29 October 1948

NO. OF PAGES 1

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. The Communist Party branch in Guayaquil reportedly received labor instructions from Vicente Lombardo Toledano, head of the CTAL, in Mexico, with regard to initiating a general, coordinated work stoppage in all of the Ecuadoran petroleum fields.
2. The communication suggested an appeal to Ecuadoran nationalistic feelings in an effort to remove the control of oil production from American and British companies. It was pointed out that production would lag with the oil fields under national control and as a consequence the imperialist nations would find less opportunity for exploitation. The communique also indicated that sabotage, if necessary in time of war, would be more easily accomplished if the oil fields were nationally owned and operated.
3. If all efforts of organization and propaganda fail to have the oil fields nationalized, the local Communist leaders are then urged to accomplish all-out crippling strikes, which will make imperialist owners come to terms. All settlements would be supervised by Communist strike experts in the country.

([REDACTED] directive was of a general nature and local leaders believe that the circular was also distributed in other Latin American oil producing countries.)

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